Neglected Vessels



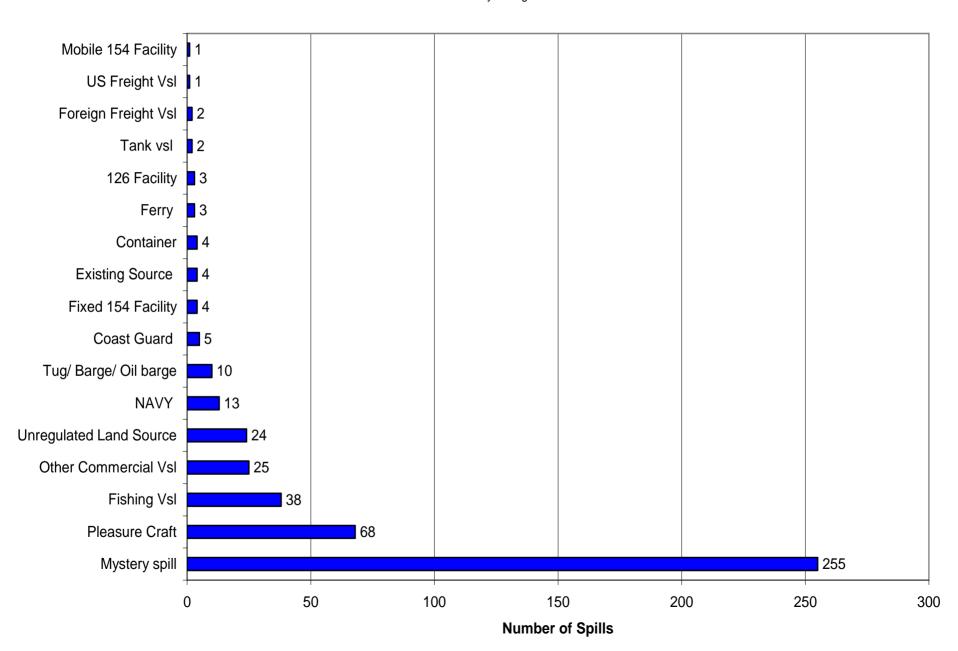
Lieutenant Christina Grim Assistant Chief, Incident Management Division

Within Sector Seattle Area of Responsibility

- 15 Billion gallons of oil moved annually
- In 2005:
 - 678 reported marine pollution cases
 - 22 Federalized (Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund) pollution cases
 - 10 of those Federalized cases were neglected vessels
 - \$800,000 spent in federal funds on neglected vessels

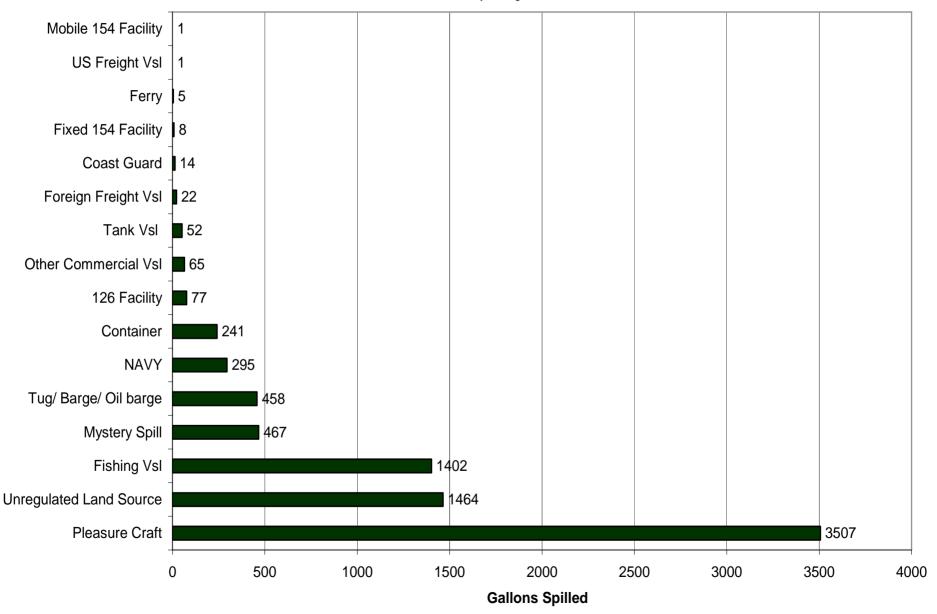
2005* Verified Spills by Source

* Chart includes data for January through November of 2005



2005* Gallons Spilled by Responsible Party Type

*Chart includes data for January through November 2005













Federal Authorities

- Vessels can be removed or destroyed if:
 - Vessel poses an obstruction or hazard to navigation (33CFR245)
 - Vessel is discharging or is a threat to discharge oil or a hazardous substance
 - Vessel poses a substantial threat to public health and welfare

Abandonment

- Under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) or the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
 - Any craft designed for navigation that has been moored, stranded, wrecked, sunk, or left unattended for longer than 45 days
 - NOT if it is on private property with permission of owner
- Search for owner/operator must be conducted
 - Announcements must be made
 - Provide opportunity to correct vessel deficiencies
 - Notify owner/operator in writing of intent to remove and/or destroy vessel
 - Seek other parties with financial interest to vessel

- Abandoned vessels historically used as "midnight dumping" sites for used oil and hazardous materials, including potential for methamphetamine labs
- FWPCA and CERCLA provide mechanisms for funding to remove and/or destroy abandoned vessels that threaten the public or the environment
 - NOT to be used for vessels that are an eyesore or community nuisance
 - Only safe way to mitigate pollution is to destroy vessel
 - Commandant approval

Operation Trash Compactor

- Use Coast Guard Auxiliary to catalog and verify neglected vessels
- Use a risk matrix to identify most significant threats
- Use Federal On Scene Coordinator authority and Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to remove pollution threat
- Work with DNR to remove vessel

Thoughts to Ponder...